

REMARKS

Claim 7 has been cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 19, and 26 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-6, and 8-27 are pending.

The examiner requested the detailing of pages and paragraphs of the specification where “dynamically displaying the image of the user combined with a selected subset of vision-enabled content in a real-time interaction with a virtual environment” is taught. In paragraph 2 on page 3 as an example, the specification teaches “display of the user image interacting with a product or as part of entertainment content, such as an image of the user wearing a piece of clothing or along side a music star in a music video,” and “a plurality of users to interact with each other, such as playing a game in which the characters in the game bear resemblance to the users.” In paragraph 4 on page 4 as another example, the specification teaches “the outputted content may include an interaction between the person image and the content, such as a portion of the person image appearing to interact with video images.”

Further, in paragraph 1 on page 7 as another example, the specification teaches “an image or a plurality of images of a user 100 are received and content based on the image of the user is selected from the vision-enabled content and displayed in such a way that the content appears to interact with the user 100, e.g. a portion of the image of the user 100 appears with the content, and/or movements of the user are recognized and used to control the content.” In paragraph 2 on page 11 as another example, the specification teaches “the background may also be removed to allow a portion of the person image to appear to interact with the content.” In paragraph 1 on page 13 as another example, the specification teaches “multiple images taken as the user turns his or her head could be used to produce the appearance of a rotating head interacting with the content.”

Further, in paragraph 3 on page 16 as another example, the specification teaches “the person image of the head of each player is composited to the animated character corresponding to that player...” and “during play, each animated character bears the likeness of the associated player.” In paragraph 4 on page 16 as another example, the specification teaches “depending on the game, interactions between the animated characters and objects appearing in the display may be required. For example, contact and collisions of the objects with the animated characters, as

well as the animated characters with each other, may form part of the game, as in a game of virtual basketball.” Based on the above examples, it is believed that the specification enables the claimed subject matter.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 and 8-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claim 1, as amended claim 1 recites “...extracting the person image portion of the received video image wherein extracting the person image includes removing a background ...” Sitrick (U.S. Patent No. 6,425,825), Ginter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,193), Leeke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,127), Yoda (U.S. Patent No. 5,515,268), and Latypov et. al. (U.S. 6,005,548) do not teach or suggest, either individually or in combination, extracting the person image portion of the received video image wherein extracting the person image includes removing a background. Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-6, 8, and 9 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claim 10 as amended also recites “...extracting the person image includes removing a background ...” and is believed to be allowable for the same reasons as those stated above. Also, as claims 11-18 depend upon claim 10 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

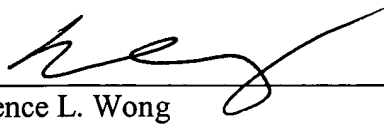
Claims 19 and 26 as amended recite “...displaying the person image includes removing a background ...” Sitrick (U.S. Patent No. 6,425,825), Ginter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,193), Leeke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,127), Yoda (U.S. Patent No. 5,515,268), and Latypov et. al. (U.S. 6,005,548) do not teach or suggest, either individually or in combination displaying the person image includes removing a background. Therefore, claims 19 and 26 are believed to be allowable.

Claims 20-25 depend upon claim 19, and claim 27 depends upon claim 26, applicants also submit that these claims are allowable for the reasons stated above.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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